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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re the application of: Whiteley, M. *et al.*

Serial No.: RCE of 09/653,730

Filed: September 1, 2000

For: *QUORUM SENSING SIGNALING IN BACTERIA*

Attorney Docket No.: UIZ-038RCE

Group Art Unit: 1645

Examiner: Hines, J.A.

Commissioner for Patents  
Mail Stop RCE  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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December 3, 2003

Date

DeAnn F. Smith, Esq. Reg. No. 36,683

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Dear Sir:

This is responsive to the Final Office Action dated June 3, 2003 (Paper No. 12) which issued in the parent case (U.S. Serial No. 09/653,730). Please amend the application as follows:

Dec-03-03 19:51 From-LAHIVE & COCKFIELD, LLP

6177424214

T-113 P 09/26 F-684

Serial No.: 09/653,730

-2-

Group Art Unit: 1645

**Amendments to the claims begins on page 3 of this p per**

**Remarks begin on page 8 of this paper**